

1509/162



T H E

FAVOURITE.



PRICE ONE SHILLING.

THE
FAVORITE



PRICE ONE SHILLING

THE
FAVOURITE.

WITH A
DEDICATION

To my Lord B * * *.

*Proud Buckingham, for Law too mighty grown,
A patriot dagger prob'd, and from the throne
Sever'd its minion; in succeeding times
May all those Favourites, who adopt his crimes,
Partake his fate, and ev'ry Villiers feel
The keen, deep searching of a Felton's steel.*

L O N D O N:
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR.

Sold by J. HARRISON, in Covent-Garden, and at all the
Pamphlet-Shops in London and Westminster.

MDCCCLXV.

THE
FAVORITE



WITH A
DEDICATION
To my Lord B. * * *

From Birmingham, for Lady's society given.
A patriot's paper, and from the above
Given to the women, in furtherance of
May all these Favourites, who adopt his cause,
Partake his fate, and enjoy his fate
The best, deep feeling of a Father's heart.

L O N D O N :
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR

Sold by J. Harrison, in Covent-Garden, and at all the
Pamphlet-Shops in London and Westminster.

MDCCLXV

DEDICATION.

To the Earl of B***.

My LORD:

AS you never imbibed a single opinion, nor followed one imprudent step, mentioned in the subsequent pages, tho' raised to the highest pinnacle of grandeur; to whom could I address, with so much justice, these observations? Observations, my Lord, which may have escaped your attention in the histories of the illustrious Stuarts, their ministers,

ii DEDICATION.

ters, and their minions. As your Lordship never was the leader of any party, nor guilty, in your most extensive power, of any partiality, how you must detest Somerset, how you must glory in his disgrace, and how your Lordship must pity the king, for being deluded by so base a Scot, and generously with all such evil counsellors, such fates, and such ends! Your Lordship must also detest the Spencers, who got the King the hatred of his people: and abominate Roger Mortimer, for his intimacies with young king Edward's * mother:---and I dare say you pray from your heart, that every such villain may meet as strong a halter.----How the people of these kingdoms ought to pray for your Lordship's life, when they consider the peace, the quiet they have

* Edward the Third.

DEDICATION. iii

have enjoyed under your Lordship's prudent guidance; how happily opposite has your Lordship's conduct been, to those party feuds, raised by the minion Buckingham, whose darling passions, were as much lust, and avarice; as your Lordships are chastity, and œconomy: but altho' flagitious, who can forbear shrinking at a Felton's knife: when that assassin brought so fair a building to the ground, the love of two Kings; altho' he poisoned one, and brought the other to the block. I even feel myself, when I reflect how your generous, tender soul must even bleed at the recital of such evils; ---but the good, my Lord, will ever commiserate, if even a villain has a tragical end. My intention of presenting these pictures to your Lord-

a 2

ship's

iv DEDICATION.

ship's view, is so entirely new, and contrary to the mode of Dedication, that you must applaud the contrast. Authors, in general, make a fair comparison, I rather choose a foul one, which makes the lights, and shades, in your Lordship's character, infinitely more apparent. The blending of colours, is the painter's art; the application of characters, the poet's; in which your Lordship well remembers Mr. Churchill was peculiarly happy; a poet, superior to most, and inferior to none. And since I have fixed on the most ignoble characters of the Stuart's times; it must, most certainly, make your Lordship's appear more noble. The candour, wisdom, virtue, honour, prudence, charity, generosity, œconomy, and integrity, with

DEDICATION. iv

with which you have conducted yourself in the most intricate situations, renders you at once the admiration of the world, and the envy: as I have so often heard your Lordship declare, that, the minister who swerved from these virtues, and acted contrary to the good of his country, deserved the people's indignation, and resentment. But how gloriously have you avoided that stumbling-block, the tripper up of thousands.

My Lord, permit me to wish no evil turn of fortune, may blast such successes---that the King may enjoy Counsellors of honour, and the people Ministers of justice: but when ministers sacrifice both king and country to their private ambitions, a Felton to
every

vi DEDICATION.

every such minion, must be your most
fanguine wishes, as much as they are
the most fanguine desires, of

Your Lordship's

most obedient,

most devoted,

PARIS, Nov.
12, 1764.

most respectful

humble Servant,

THE AUTHOR.



THE
FAVOURITE.

IT is certainly an undeniable truth, that the people are more dexterous at pulling down, and setting up, than maintaining what is fixed, and settled: ---for that itch of innovation, like oil upon water, is ever uppermost; and flows with such a pleasing smoothness, even to tickle, and delude the most wary.

Has any administration appeared greater than Mr. Pitt's? did ever a minister ascend the chair in a more distracted time, when amidst profuseness there were no riches, and amongst the bravest people no courage; yet through the influence of a rising party, and the fickleness of the people, Mr. Pitt, after

B

all

2 THE FAVOURITE.

all his services, for a few paultry continental accounts yielded to the weight of a crew, worn to the very bones of their knees with offering protestations and wishes to an unfortunate itinerant Stewart.

This strange introduction of the Tories, was certainly built on the basis of peace and amity, to destroy that ridiculous Hydra so long worshipped by that unconstitutional party. It is very easy for a prince to set up a particular party, but the difficulty is, how to introduce it without throwing down another; for like buckets in a well, though one is full at top, the other will not be long empty at bottom. Innovations in a state, ought not to be introduc'd under any particular mode, nor under any particular men, for particulars must create jealousies, and be absolutely repugnant, and disagreeable to those they are intended to succeed.

If Whigs, and Tories could have been mixt together like children's phyfic, to please the taste, and operate beneficially; it would have prevented these nauseous acids, which



which have disgusted numbers, and occasioned such gripings, and heart-burnings, as in the end, must hurt and prejudice the human, and political body.---To me, a minister of state's office, appears equally disagreeable at this time, as it did in Greece, when Plato said---"*If all men were only as good as they ought, the contest in a republic would be, not as it is now, who should be minister, --- but, diametrically opposite, who should not be minister.*" Let Mr. Pitt's troubles, and uneasinesses be weighed, the gratitude he received for his services; and the scurrilities thrown on the ears of B---- and S-----and after a serious reflection, if any man of sense and prudence can admire the office, he is with the greatest justice entitled to the ministerial punishment.

The inquietude of mobs in general is such, that rather than not be carping, they will rail at the general who saved them from slavery, and remove the legislator, who governed them with lenity, and justice; their clamours don't always arise from the

4 THE FAVOURITE.

heart, no more than the waves of the sea from the bottom---for in general, they are of so very a frothy nature, as to make them execute what they repent in their cooler moments.

The exalted situation of a minister is such, that it requires all the prudence and understanding imaginable, to steer between the rocks of censure and applause: the thirst of the latter being, in general, so great, as even to convert what he courted as praise, into the highest envy and abuse.----But when the minister and favourite are included in one, it requires the utmost caution; the eyes of the world being ever fixed on such a sun-dial, which becomes useless and contemptible when deprived of those rays which made it an exalted director to all beneath.

If a Favourite possesses so immediately the countenance of a master, in spite of truths and calumnies, and roots himself so firmly about a throne, that neither party, nor the outcries of the people can hurt, holding a favour, which no malice, envy,

envy, or hatred, can remove : and at once reduces it to this one question,---“ *Whether a favourite ought to be countenanced, when distrust is of the public peace ?*” No---No more, than God considers an individual sinner in a general good. Favourites in all countries, have proved the never failing instruments of destruction ; nor do I remember one passage in history, where a good man, though the most bosom confident of his monarch, was treated with that appellation. A favourite in a private life is an endearing word, but when it ascends to the throne, as diametrically opposite as Scotland is to England. If great men would consider their own peace, they certainly would study the public's ; for whatever is repugnant to the inclination of the people, must cause a double uneasiness to the promoter.

There are very few things amongst the regal and most public concerns of this life, which may not be compared with private ones : the feuds of a kitchen, may be compared with those of a court, where the servants are in an eternal broil ; because

John

John the butler, possesses more immediately the countenance of his master, and is in the menial stile *a mere eye servant*: the jealousies, and heart-burnings of the rest, increase with his continuance till all *the fat's in the fire*; a circumstance soon apparent to the master, who to save his house from flames, comes to a speedy resolution of parting with the whole. For in this particular it's the same in a state as a kitchen, unless you part with the infected bodies you retain the distemper. But in what condition of life soever, the servant who prefers his private interest to the peace of his master, must be knave, or fool: if it is folly, the folly of the master must exceed the servant's, or he could not be blind to his ignorance, no more than deaf to the clamours of his house; if it is knavery, the flattery of the sycophant must deceive, and prevail over the honesty, and generosity of the master. Favourites in all states have been obnoxious to the people, and with justice; for the minion will ever forget public good, for private luxuries; and notwithstanding they may have massacred thousands, yet, either by
their

their own snares, or ignorance; they feel the points of the very weapons which inhumanly butchered numbers.

ROGER MORTIMER, who lived in all the splendor of a court, died the ignominious death he deserved; the vigilance, and activity of young Edward cannot be sufficiently admired *, who could not digest the past and present conduct of this impudent favourite ---- particularly, when he saw his own mother with child by him: when he reflected on the barbarous murder of Edward the Second his father; the beheading of the earl of Kent his uncle; the dishonourable peace he was made to conclude; the honours, riches, and pride of Mortimer; --- and at the same time abhorring the wickedness of those, who made the *public* good a pretence to gratify their own passion; came to a noble resolution of punishing the offenders. The misfortunes of Edward the Second, were superior to his faults; --- it is certainly difficult to justify his whole conduct; --- though all his sufferings arose from not hav-

* *Rapin.*

ing the resolution to punish his favourites, the Spencers; (who felt afterwards the heavy hands of Isabella the queen-mother, and Mortimer) a most important lesson to all princes ---which few are happy enough to learn.--- As soon as Edward the Third had shook off his minority, and had got the reins of government into his own hands; he converted the misfortunes of his father's reign into blessings---which is a striking proof---that the happy government of a kingdom depends less on it's own strength * ---than on the prudence of the reigning prince. The first step he took, was to seize the earl of March---who had been the cause of so many troubles;---he entered the castle of Nottingham by a subterraneous passage, and seized the favourite in the arms of his mother---notwithstanding her cries and his intreats, “ *Bel Fitz, bel Fitz ayex pitié du gentile Mortimer.*” The Queen was confined to her house at Risings---and Mortimer was treated with a due vigour.---He was justly accused of seizing the government---that he had placed spies on all the king's actions, that he

* *Rapin.*

THE FAVOURITE. 9

had murdered the late king, that he had contrived a plot to destroy the king's uncle--- *that he had appropriated immense sums of money, to his own use* : and lastly, that he had been too familiar with the Queen mother. This last article of his impeachment was very clear,---the whole kingdom being long disgusted at their familiarity---if it had not been notorious,--none would have mentioned it--as it reflected so much on the honour of so great and good a king. For these crimes he was condemned to die--and hanged as a traytor on the common gallows at Tyburn.-- Thus ended the shameful life of this minion, who at last compleated his own ruin as well as the fall of his king and queen. How happy must a nation be to punish a favourite, according to his crimes,---and how blind must a leading favourite be, when he reflects, or reads---that death and contempt is the common fate of favourites, and ministers, who abuse their trust and power.

The bloody methods all favourites have taken to remove those who were opposite to their opinions, or thwarted, in any measure,

sure, their intentions, are so recent, and have been so common in all reigns, that even to touch upon their conducts, in the lightest manner, would swell this beyond an hour's reading; which is not my intention. I shall, therefore, pass from the illustrious Edward the Third, to the pitiful James the First, who could with all his Scotch learning, and prudence, involve this nation in more troubles, and unconstitutional deeds, than she may ever be able to deface. What can we think of Car, who could murder his sensible good friend, Sir Thomas Overbury, for opposing his damnable schemes, and unjust passion for the bitter countess of Essex? But what can we think of James, who could forgive the murderer, with a pension of 4000l. a year for life? But how mean do the abilities of James the First appear, to commit an able statesman, a man esteemed for an exemplary character, upon so bare, so cob-web a circumstance? Princes in general, have so many flatterers, and parasites, to represent qualities, and virtues they never had, that it is even hard to come at the truth, when they are dead. Henry the Eighth,

Eighth, for writing a book, was named Defender of the Faith: tho', one million to one, he could not defend the very faith he meant to maintain,---but the qualities of the book are little entered into---only Harry Tudor writ a book?---But be it bad or good it certainly had a better effect, than all the books the kings of England writ before or since,---for the bluntness of his pen and manners, subverted the power of the pope. ---James the First was a learned man, but in what his learning consisted was never known to his flatterers---he was a mere Scot in those days---and merely as pedantic as they are in these. For from the Scotch king, to the Scotch cobbler, there is such an equality of parts, and such a similitude of manners, that in seeing one Stuart, you see and know the whole clan. But amongst the strange circumstances of James's reign, his kneeling in a circle of nobles, and addressing heaven with an unusual imprecation, that he would never pardon the murderers of Overbury; looks as if he had been privy to the murder, and meant this to smother the suspicion: or how could he so tamely forgive Somerset,

and countenance a marriage, which even made whoredom blush thro' her veil, tho' the bishops of those times, could look on the most obscene examination, without a change of countenance: such was ecclesiastick effrontery, and such the penetration of that book-writing prince. May not the catastrophe of the Stuart family, with some apparent truth, be applied to this king's vow? which was made with the greatest solemnity, and broke, thro' *learned* weakness, and the influence of a wicked favourite. Somerset was a man of small abilities, which is a proof of James's ignorance, who raised him from a page and a ganymede, to a minister, --- but the wicked in general are lifted up to some exalted pinnacle, to have the greater fall: as the eagle bears the crab to the clouds to break his shell. --- The misfortunes brought into the kingdom by this favourite are innumerable --- but the death of the brave, and virtuous prince Henry, the poisoning of Sir Thomas Overbury --- were so very capital, that he ought to have been stoned in the streets, --- without mentioning the heats, clamours, and jealousies raised in the nation,

by

by the swarms of *Scots* he introduced into all public places.

Car, at his first advancement into favour, was circumspect, and cautious, and so desirous of avoiding jealousy, as only to admit one *Scot* servant about him: but this prudent part of his conduct must be attributed to Sir Thomas Overbury's superior abilities. For Car, as he grew in power, he grew in insolence, and the murder of his best counsellor, quite overwhelmed him. No man of weak abilities can long support a character, where superior talents are required: his haughtiness, partiality, impudence, and ignorance, disgusted the whole kingdom, and even, at last, James himself--who seemed rather, in the decline of the minion's life, to fear, than love him. How very unfortunâte it is to a nation, when a legislator won't attend to the truths brought him, but will continue to countenance, and indulge a villain till he is himself afraid of his crimes, and even then has not resolution enough to put him away, tho' he is as hateful to himself, as his people. Grievances of this nature
are

are often at last redressed by force--tho' thousands may be involved in the ruin,-- which makes it unpardonable in a prince, who has the welfare of his people so little at heart, as to prefer *one man* to the peace of his kingdoms.--Overbury's murder beginning to stink so offensively, and the suspicions dropped by chief justice Coke, of foul play, in prince Henry's death, brought this state villain to trial, with his most infamous wife,--when they were both sentenced to death, but most unaccountably pardoned by James, tho' they had even murdered his own son: and presented with four thousand pounds a year, to hide, what the world had but too much reason to believe. COKE was in those days a great check on tyranny, and prerogative--for the king gave a feeling proof of it, when he told Somerset, "*If Coke sent for him, he must go too.*" And lord chancellor Ellesmer, refusing to fix the great seal to the king's pardon--was a glorious mark of courage, Justice and uprightness--and a new disgrace, to the disgraced favorite--who withdrew, and sunk

in obscurity, ending a wicked life, in the most wretched, despicable manner. Minions in all states have proved, in their latter days, as hateful to their masters, as the people---and James either would not see his crimes, or was so ignorantly blind, as to let him continue about court, till he became himself obnoxious to the world; for what people can be so blind, or so easily lulled, to forget a man, who is their bitter hatred, upon the mere resignation of a public place or two, when the very fiend possesses the ear of his master, on all private occasions:---what a childish opinion must the prince have of his people, when he thinks he can so easily delude them, and how imperfect a knowledge must he have of right and wrong,---to think he can enjoy the minion in quiet---when his very name chills the blood of the subject.

The Scots authors have endeavoured to load both James and Somerset with virtues: the former they call a scholar, for writing a book of *Sports* to turn the sabbath into ridicule. But, so very partial are the dispositions

fitions of these people, to even give blood
 to stones, and virtues to vice. Somerset's
 misfortunes may be in a great measure at-
 tributed to his unbounded *lusts*; but how
 far he indulged his master, it is hard to
 assert---though till Villers's time, he could
 not bear a woman about court---an obstacle,
 soon removed by this new smooth'd faced
 gentleman, whose figure and person James
 was so much enamoured of, as he had been
 of Car's before. The queen, through the
 influence of this new ganymede, appeared
 in a fainter light, although she had her fa-
 vorites; yet she had not those honours paid her,
 nor was she consulted, or respected equal to
 her abilities, and royal dignity. It is certainly
 a most galling circumstance to every woman,
 and more so to a Queen, when she finds
 herself treated like a child, through the
 perfidy of a sneaking minion, with no other
 accomplishment than flattery, raised to the
 most distinguished posts of government, and
 loaded with presents, and pensions, to the
 detriment of the public funds.---Nor had
 James's extravagancy stopped, if Salisbury
 had not, with policy and indifference, showed
 him

him twenty thousand pounds in silver, ordered by the king for this favourite,---who certainly had not so much idea of it's value, as the bulk. A minion thus possessed of all the treasure, the king's confidence, and the nation's hatred, were motives sufficient to make the bishop of Canterbury, and her Majesty, scheme to dislodge him, though pardoned for a barbarous murder. In this respect, James lost his passions for his favourites, as men do for women, as they enter into the decline of life: and as in physic, one poison expels another---a new minion was found the best method to dislodge the old one; for the *insolence* of the Scotch was arrived at such a pitch, that it was better to run the risk of a second, than bear any longer with the first. For James, who was as little of a soldier, as a scholar, made Philip Herbert, (brother to lord Pembroke) in one day, a knight, a baron, and a viscount, for tamely putting up with a horse-whipping, from one Ramsay, an arrogant Scot; and interfered in a quarrel between Mr. Hawley, and one Maxwell, a court catamite, for offering him a gross affront, by

D

leading

18 THE FAVOURITE.

leading him out of court by a black string he wore in his ear :--for which Mr. Hawley would have justly run him through the body, had not James the pacific become a mediator *. These new insolence gave occasion to the subsequent lines,---and may be applied to the present times.

They beg our lands, our goods, our lives,
They switch our nobles, and lie with our wives,
Our gentry they challenge, and threaten
our freedom,
Imprison our Patriots---and yet,---we don't
bleed 'em,

The queen, and the English nobility, greatly discomposed at these proceedings, resolved to overthrow Somerset, by the introduction of young Villiers. James's weakness for a favourite being so great, the Queen, the bishop of Canterbury, and the earls of Pembroke, and Bedford, found it an easy matter to introduce Villiers--- a youth of airy abilities, and a smooth face, qualities sufficient to attract James---whose pleasure was as much man, as his learning was pe-

* *Rapin.*

dantry.

THE FAVOURITE. 19

dantry. The new minion, like a new mistress raised him honors and riches, till the title of earl of Buckingham compleated his ambition; --- the management of the realm, was given to the favourite, --- who like a young vicious horse, with a fine harness, without breaking or discipline, pranced and kicked the very wheels to pieces he was decked to move; he ruled with an absolute sway in church, and state; deposed whom he pleased, and disposed of what he pleased, ---but bestowed nothing without a great present, or a yearly pension. * The king being poor, the favourite was obliged to have these recourses to cloath, and put bread into the mouths of his beggarly kindred, who came like locusts to court, to partake of his greatness, and the kingdom's treasure. His eldest brother was made a viscount, his youngest an earl, his mother a countess; in one word the males were advanced to posts, and the females married into the best families: the king gave up every thing to his minion, and contented himself with an airing in the country, or some other rural amusement.

* *Rapin.*

The people began to murmur about their fisheries, and his majesty's jealousy of his prerogative, was another cause of discontent, though it did not appear where it had been infringed; but it was greatly feared he meant to extend it further than any of his predecessors; amongst these grievances, the ministers proved their capacities by maintaining a tame shameful peace, though they were daily insulted by their old enemies. The nation reflected, he had imprisoned a member of parliament for defending the LIBERTY of the people: the world frowned with indignation on the favourite, to see him dispose of all places to his kindred; and raised to such titles, and such honours, without rendering one good act to the kingdom; though in fact he now ruled in the king's name without any contradiction, yet his avaricious old mother obtained whatever she pleased, and places which had been paid dear for, were taken away, and sold to new purchasers;--- which Gondemar perceiving, said in a letter to the court of Spain,---* “*That, there never was more hope*

* *Rapin.*

*"of England's conversion to Rome than now :
 "for there are more prayers offered here to the
 "mother, than the son."* Minionism being

at the height, the king ever endeavouring to extend his prerogative, pleading poverty to his parliament; and praising his own œconomy, gave rise to that happy party, which happily subsists to this day, under the name of WHIGS. The Stuart Tories, labour even to this day, to extend the prerogative royal; and the Whigs, the true friends of this Constitution, maintain the rights, and privileges of the people.

The king, and ministry being very tame, put up with new insults daily from abroad, and submitted to the impertinences of foreign ambassadors at their own court. * Such was the tameness of those times, although they durst not resent a foreign affront, yet they endeavoured to tie the tongue of the subject, and threatened the liberty of the press; which if ever Englishmen submit to, they deserve to be chained to an oar to

* *Rapin.*

eternity

eternity. The liberty of the press, is the liberty of the subject; which bad men, and bad ministers must detest, as it is the looking glass of their errors, and a scourge of correction. *Monopolies* at this time gave great uneasiness, being all granted to Scots, and creatures of the favourite, particularly American lands; not his, but the conquests, and discoveries of the late reign.---James's inactivity, his being deluded by the court of Spain, while they seized the Palatinate, brought him into such contempt abroad, to be publicly ridiculed on the stage, and the sport of every pen, pencil, and print-shop. In the midst of these contempts, the favourite Buckingham ruled with such a sway, as to be master of his monarch---he admitted none into places, but men of lust, no honour, and no religion;---but particularly none but rank Tories, let their principles be what they would.

Can a prince read the history of his ancestors, without a contempt for favourites, or without the noble resolution of discarding them?---Buckingham finding himself

self prodigiously hurt with the king, by some bold truths advanced by the Spanish ambassador, grew very uneasy; fearing the earl of Bristol might depose him, or Somerset come again into play, agitated with these thoughts, and certain of prince Charles's esteem, (without one doubt) poisoned the King.

Thus Somerset, and Mortimer who had ruined thousands, ruined at last themselves; and Buckingham, destroyed the very man who had raised him from a private character, to the most distinguished posts in the realms. How despicable every monarch appears in history, when the dupe of a favourite, how unlamented he falls, and how disrespected is his memory--The following epigram which was written in France, will stand a blot amongst the rest of the pasquils on James's character.

When great ELIZABETH was king,

* To Spain, old England was a dread:
Now they but prate in every thing,

With poor queen *Jemmy* at their head.

* *Rapin.*

Charles

24 THE FAVOURITE.

Charles the first successor of this unhappy monarch; was in the End more unhappy than his father, tinctured from his infancy with the principles of prerogative royal. He continued the same favourite, and the favourite continued the same creatures. A favourite must preach up arbitrary power, for nothing else can support him in his office or make him terrible--nor must that power be lodged in the king's hands, but in his. But what could be expected else from this monarch, but steps of this nature, as he had imbibed nothing but the thoughts of extending the royal authority both from the father, and his favourite. To oppress the subject, has ever been the unconstitutional system of the *Stuarts*, and their *Tories*: a system which must ever fail in a free country, especially, when opposed by an august body of WHIGS, who in the name, and with the voice of the people are obstinately just in opposing such oppressions; and resolute in maintaining the people's LIBERTY,--in spite of every step a *Stuart* dare take, to destroy it. But in such a case a prince forfeits his covenant

covenant with his people, which Charles the First most imprudently did, partly thro' evil counsellors, and partly thro' his own obstinacy, which unfortunately brought him to the block. It certainly was a most glorious, a most noble exertion of the law, when the king was base enough to deceive his people, by breaking every agreement made between them: a favourite recommending every step, the most hateful to the subject, and the king applauding, and even executing his wicked measures, must in the end raise such a storm, as no royal authority could appease. The earl of Bristol's unjust imprisonment, especially when he made so clear a defence; wherein he proved, Buckingham had deceived the parliament, in his narrative of what passed in Spain, loaded his accusers with confusion, and reflected on his majesty who had attested such a relation. Some days after this, the commons impeached Buckingham, in which impeachment he stood charged with * *neglecting to guard the seas. 2. Of engrossing into his hands a number of offices. 3. Of oppressing the East India*

* *Rapin.*

E

company.

company. 4. Of constraining people to purchase titles of honour. 5. Of procuring to his kindred, and allies, titles, and posts, &c. without their having done the state any service. 6. And of embexzling, and engrossing the king's lands, &c.

Sir John Elliot, and Sir Dudley Diggs, who spoke upon these articles, were sent the next day to the Tower by the king's commands: at which the commons exerted a most noble spirit for committing two of their members unjustly, and had them released; the king meaning in this to terrify a body not so easily shaken. The people's hatred encreasing daily for Buckingham; notwithstanding he encreased his offices, and favours, made them threaten to destroy the old scaffold on Tower-hill---saying, *his grace should have a new one*; at this time, Doctor Lamb, one of his creatures, was so roughly treated by the populace, that he died of his bruises.

*The appearance of things began now to declare the fall of this mighty minion, which he disregarded, in spite of his father's ghost, which appeared repeated times to his friend Mr. Towers at Windsor, desiring him to

* *Ecbar.*

caution

caution his son's conduct; but Buckingham in spite of *men and ghosts* proceeded in his tyrannies, partialities and oppressions; 'till Felton, who looked upon him as an enemy to his country, after the declaration of the commons, stabbed him (over Sir Thomas Fryar's shoulder) to the heart, when he was about to embark at Portsmouth for the relief of the distressed Rochellers. So fell this COLOSSUS of favour by an assassin, and a bold one too, that durst strike at so exalted a Devil amongst a phalanx of Fiends. The most flagitious ending a bad life in this manner, must excite compassion, and still more must joy than weep. You find few kingdoms possessed of a Buckingham without a Felton, either despair, or enthusiasm, ever prompt some to destroy the monsters of a community; of which Damian was a glaring instance.

Charles could not lose his minion without most apparent griefs; though, when he beheld those misfortunes bursting round him, through his base counsels, he could not bear to recollect Buckingham but with the utmost

disgust.---Star-chamber government began now to be more rigorous than ever; and those felt the weight most who disputed the prerogative royal. From these proceedings the king and parliament became at variance; the court resolved to be absolute, the commons resolved to be free; these feuds, by degrees, brought the king into terrible distresses, till he most imprudently took the field and besieged the town of Hull; and, notwithstanding repeated solicitations were sent him from the commons to desist, for the good of his kingdoms, yet Charles's headstrong obstinacy prevailed, and at last involved him in irreparable ruin.

Could one imagine a king could declare, at the head of his army, he meant but the people's good, that he was resolved to maintain the privileges and freedom of parliament, and to govern by the known laws of the land, when, at the same time, he had acted diametrically opposite; and, because he could not subdue by menaces, took up arms against his own people. By the King's obstinacy, the bad counsels of his minions, and

and his natural inclination to absolute power, we presently see him defeated, and throwing himself into the arms of the *Scots*; by whom he was betrayed, and sold to the parliament. Here the infidelity of * Scotland was glaring, when she could be base enough to betray, and sell her own King, one of her own *Stuarts*, and the son of a Scot.---But in those days they were like the miscreants of these, without a spirit to declare for either party, hoping to reap an harvest from both: by such wretches was this unfortunate monarch undone, and lost his head for breaking the very laws he made, and for attempting, by force of arms, to introduce arbitrary maxims, contrary to the laws of the land. That virtue SINCERITY, he was no ways related to---for this reason the parliament could never confide in him---especially when he even treated acts of parliament as only mere matter of opinion, speaking in ambiguous terms, and acting in all things with such little truth; which created such a distrust, that it was not possible for the parlia-

* *Rapin.*

ment

ment to treat of a peace, and especially to make it, when his majesty's word was so little to be depended on. If a king could break his acts of parliament, which are the most authentic, and solemn promises he can make from the throne---what opinion could the people entertain of their Monarch?

Charles the First must be allowed qualities, for he certainly possessed many: but his failings flowed from a design to enslave ENGLAND, for which he lost his head. The title of *Martyr* he has no kind of right to, as he never meant the defence of the Protestant religion, *absolute power* was his meaning, and he fell in attempting to extend it. The Queen, Buckingham, Strafford, and Laud, used to a different government, were in many respects accessary to his melancholy end.--- But how justly were these *counsellors* punished, and Charles for following such admonitions! Buckingham, who ruined both father and son, was stabbed, Laud, Strafford, and his Majesty died on the scaffold, and the Queen wept away the residue of her days, even neglected by her own son, Charles the Second. Such

THE FAVOURITE. 31

Such are the effects of minions, whose machinations generally destroy themselves and masters: their ambitions occasion evil dissensions, and the introduction of these evils too often draw the world into the quarrel. * It seldom happens that the body of the people are wrong, yet the *spaniels* of state will never, or dare not, allow them to be right. Sir *Dudley Diggs* was impeached, and imprisoned, for his glorious assertions of the subjects LIBERTY: not that the senate thought he deserved such impeachment, but they made it one of their points of honour, to condemn the person, however frivolous the articles were, or weak the surmises whereon they were to proceed in their proofs. His case (and happily for him and England), was not like the earl of Bristol's; he had an hearing, and before an upright JUDGE; a judge whom favourites must dread, when they are convinced their actions are criminally unconstitutional, and the wounds they have given the kingdom worse than Buckingham's phycic; whose operation nothing

• *Oldmixon.*

can

can check but a patriot judge---which happily every reign has been blessed with---and which we hope no reign will ever be without, as an antidote to that *judicial corruption* which has in *former times* been met with on the bench. To Buckingham may be attributed the feuds which subsist to this day: and every Favourite since his time seems so declared an enemy to his country, as even to inspire their masters with maxims directly contrary to the established government. A King, so advised, thinks a parliament of no other use than to raise him money; forgetting the gallant, glorious conduct of the earl of Leicester, when he made Henry III. his brother and son (royal prisoners) swear they would never oppose the execution of MAGNA CHARTA. The opposers of that charter have ever met fatal ends, and miscarriages, whether monarchs or minions; which is verified in the reigns of *John, Henry the Third, Edward the Second, Richard the Second, James the First, Charles the First*, and lastly, *James the Second*, who had all one design, and failed in the execution. From such examples it may be easily perceived how dangerous it is
for

for a king of England to attempt the subversion of a government so well founded, and cemented.

* From the feuds raised by Buckingham in the reign of James the First, arose the noble, disinterested party of Whigs, the friends of Liberty and England, in opposition to the Tories, who ever want, and wanted to extend the royal authority, and introduce Papacy. These parties still subsist, under the titles of MINORITY and Majority, the former retaining the Whig principles, the latter, alas! those of the Tories. Every man has certainly a right to follow his own opinion, but if that opinion leads him into errors, he must answer for his erroneous conduct. The principles of a rigid Tory must doubtless be wrong, as being opposite to the established laws of *this* country; and let an impartial reader search the annals of England, though they are even writ by a *Scotsman*, and if he finds one good accruing from the advice and conduct of the Tories, he may even call it the Philosophers Stone.

* *Rapin.*

Charles

F

Charles

Charles the Second, whose study was ease and pleasure, seemed resolved to avoid all disputes with his subjects; he had suffered too much in exile to hazard any more turns of fortune: but thro' his indolence, and the confidence he put in his Ministers, who were all rank Tories, he was unaccountably urged to attempt the introduction of arbitrary power; and France, for her own interests, was indefatigable to inspire the same design.

* The duke of York was at the head of the Tories, and a Roman Catholick, which religion he meant to establish in England; and as his brother had no legitimate issue, he thought the king's beginning such an affair, might make it more easy for him to compleat it. The utter ruin of the illustrious WHIGS was the first step which they attempted, in vain; for the very moderate Tories, fearing such proceedings, joined the old WHIGS, and obligated the king to send his brother abroad: thus the Whigs, who were a small MINORITY, by daily recruits became superior.

* *Rapin.*

Charles

Charles

Charles the Second dying, the duke of York ascended the throne; but still continued to push his absolute maxims, at the expence of the Protestant religion, and the subversion of government. The Whigs happily resolved to call in *the Prince of Orange*, to free them from so dangerous a state; and James abandoned his crown and kingdoms on his appearance: and most justly, for attempting the destruction of them, by setting aside MAGNA CHARTA,

In the reign of queen Ann, the Tories had great hopes, being the daughter of James the Second; whose capacity was not great, and whose failing was obstinacy. The glorious successes of her reign were owing to the lord Godolphin, and the duke of Marlborough; for the meanness of the queen's genius held her in a kind of servitude, tho' they politically gave her the honour of the successes. The Whigs, in the latter part of her reign, were oppressed; and what happened since the accession of king George, shews there was a design form'd to bring in the *Pretender*, had not the queen died, be-

fore the *Tories* could accomplish all their measures.

The Whigs and Tories to this day are at variance; and must continue so, while the latter act upon the *Stuart* principles---but the former will appear glorious in the end, as their proceedings mean the welfare of his majesty, his church, and state: and since *Magna Charta* contains the wholesome, and received laws of these lands, whoever endeavour to alter, or subvert them, should be obliged to follow the order of CHARONDAS, a lawgiver to the *Sabyrites*, who made a statute, "that, whoever proposed any alteration in the state, should do it with a hal-
"ter about his neck;--if it went in the ne-
"gative, the proposer to be immediately
"hanged."---The introduction of this statute would be the reduction of *Torism*; and at once render this nation happy, under the wise, and prudent administration of the Whigs, at present the MINORITY; who act for the peace and glory of these kingdoms.

Upon

THE FAVOURITE. 37

Upon this subject, my friend Mr. Churchill, intended a satyr in verse, which death deprived us of; but from repeated conversations it was to be upon this plan, which I have endeavoured to follow, and prove, that the WHIGS are the true friends of this constitution---and may they persevere in the paths of honour, with that truly patriotic spirit the nation wishes them, are the sanguine desires of him who subscribes himself a member of their society, and the unshaken friend of that illustrious genius, Charles Churchill.

-----Deus hæc fortasse benignâ

Reducet in sedem vice.-----

* * * * *

* * * * *

* * * * * cætera desiderantur.

F I N I S.

THE FAVOURITE.

Upon this subject, my friend Mr. Churchill, intended a satire in verse, which death deprived us of; but from repeated conversions it was to be upon this plan, which I have endeavoured to follow, and prove, that the Whites are the true friends of this condition--and may they persevere in the paths of honour, with that truly patriotic spirit the nation wishes them, are the sincere desires of his who subscribes himself a member of the friend of that friend of that friend, Charles Churchill.



---Dens hinc fortasse benigna

Reduct in ledem vice.---

***** cetera desiderantur.

F I N I S.